St. Michael Catholic School Council Virtual Meeting
Thursday February 9, 2023
6:30 – 8:00 pm

*“We would like to asknowledge that this is the sacred territory of the Mississaugas of Credit First Nation, and we thank them for being stewards of this land “*

**In Attendance:** Mr.Tantalo, Paula Giovannozzi, Maria Moran, Gabriella Di Pietrantonio, Diane Borelli, Mike Brunetto, C.Lindsay, Vanessa Eliseo, Josie Lorenzon, Natalia Agostino, Debbie Famele, Heather D’Ambrosio, Luca Bizzaro, Nella Darosa, Francesca Nosotti, Santa Del Bono-Ause

Opening prayer - Gabriella (5min)

Meeting starts with welcoming and introduction of Paula Giovannozzi a new DPCDSB trustee for Dufferin Caledon

**Approval of previous minutes**: Heather, Maria

**1) Teachers Report**: V.Eliseo (5 min)

- February-April - grocery stores and local restaurants visits by planning for independence students

- Eco-council activity – National Sweater Day, going for tomorrow February 10

- Walking Day on February 16

- Eco-friendly lunches with Re-Use Containers on February 21

\*Parent question: Mike asked about jerseys and affordable printing for PIP students; Gabriella and Heather talked about the press and how to organize it; there are 26-28 jerseys in different sizes.

**2) Chaplaincy Report**: T.Vincent sent video, 5 min

- School masses for students, at Period-4 led by Father Andrew Cyruk

- February 22, Ash Wednesday Prayer at our school

- Raising money for Share Life, and for Hospitality department to prepare food for Exchange

**3) Principal Report: Mr.Tantalo** (10 min)

- Exams returned to schools went well overall; mark weight in percentage was reduced for Exam and CPT to eased transition after online work in pandemic

- Bus cancellation brings additional exam day and distortion for parents who booked vacation before, for the future references in weather inclement it recommended to add about 5 days after scheduled exams

- CTV came to school for Champions in Mental Health, talked to students, highlighted the “Bell Let’s Talk” and “St.Mikes, Let’s Sit” work in support of mental health and well being

- Coop- students had a chance to showcase their work and be on CTV

- This Monday February 6, boys made playoff in Basketball; girls will play tomorrow, going strong as well;

- Hockey game going on tomorrow too;

- February 16, During the Black History Month is the Taste of Culture Day at school, chicken and rise served to students and staff at no cost

- Movie night planned for Grade 9 students with pizza and social;

- February 21, Shrove Tuesday - Pancakes will be served for students;

- We gone from 3 lunches to 2 due to enrollment numbers and to support consistency in learning;

- Literacy re-writes focused on Grade 10 (updates from VP Josie Lorenson)

- Virtual classes planned at 3:00-4:00pm with teacher; students will be able to check list of classes before the April 26 on announced days; it will be divided by skills for better preparation;

- Math test and prep; multi-staged results will be in a fall

\*Question from parent: Gabriella asked to share results/info with parents, VP J.Lorenzon – yes, will be available for parents and students council

Mr.Tantalo: school has 10 handicap parking spots; occasionally tickets may happen on wrong parking spots, kiss-and-ride or bus-lane

\*Question from parent: Gabriella, when snow on the parking lot has cleaned - snow pushed on side walk, it stays on the corner, creates the problem for kiss-and-ride, difficulty in drive-through, difficulty to walk for students

Mr.Tantalo: third-party done it fast to push away at parking on snow days, cleaning done by custodian too in some parts; will talk to both of them.

\*Question from parent: Mike mentioned, cars are taking spots in front of PIP department making difficult arrival or departure of PIP-students, congestion usually takes place during 8-8:15am or 2-2:15pm

Mr.Tantalo: town policing visited school parking lot for several times, they couldn’t get cars, will continue to monitor.

**4) Chair and Co-Chair Report:**

**Co-Chair: Maria (10 min)**

Maria asked to be included in communication as a Co-chair as since December all information been missing.

She provided updates on OAPCE and Paul Davis event;

* March 2, 2023 date for Paul Davis presentation at school on Cyber Safety, this event is being supported and funded by the Catholic Schools Councils Family of Schools (St.Michael, St.John Paul II, St. Nicholas, St.John the Baptist and Holy Family) affiliated with the Bolton area, in collaboration with the Parent Council Committee of St.Michael High School. Parents and children 12 yrs+( Gr. 7+) belonging to the feeder schools mentioned are welcome to attend the event.
* OAPCE informs parents reading funds for Parents Engagements at schools:
* Ontario's schools been provided through the annual Grants for Student Needs (GSN). Funding allocated through the series of grants based on student enrolment and the needs of students in each board
* For the 2022-23 school year, the total Parent Engagement has three components, calculated as follows, per board:
* PIC component ($5000 + $0.17 per average daily enrolment of pupils)
* School Council Component ($500 per school)
* PRO component ($1500 + $500 per school)
* On Jan 18, 2023 OAPCE and Canadian Mental Health Association, Peel, held a special event in person at NotreDame Secondary School, Brampton with Miguel Martinez Founder of MTC LIFE who made a presentation with Focus on Mental Health issues: Anxiety, Zoom fatigue, Social media use etc.
* OAPCE is having Conference For Parents on Saturday April 22, 2023 in Kingston ON

\*Question from parent, Gabriella: what is the OAPCE, and benefits for parents?

Maria: OAPCE shares very informative resources on many topics with the intent to engage parents and students together through the school council. Every speaker is chosen with the specific intent to support our catholic faith values.

Mike: The Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic Education (OAPCE) is the voice of parents and guardians in Catholic education; provides information on activities and upcoming education events taking place in different areas across the province. Coming out from Covid, when everyone was isolated, it is important to bring parents together again. That done through the series of workshops covering different areas and aspects for parenting, speakers events going in person or virtual to keep parents engaged and inform in their children education.

Ms.Lindsay: The short response is yes, OAPCE is a channel of information that is at the disposition of parents and school community.

Maria had added regarding Fundraising ideas:

* Maria spoke to Pizza Panini, the owner has generous offer in form of vouchers, products as sandwiches etc. and would like to develop fundraising idea with collaboration of school and parent council;
* Regarding the school uniform collection, Maria added: to ask all Grades (9-10-11-12) for uniform donation and not limit for grade 12 students only, as the kids grow drastically every year and if uniform became smaller and if they don’t have any siblings to pass it on, we as school gladly accept it to help students/families in needs, as from previous experience all kind of sizes went on call during the sales.

**Chair: Mike** (10 min)

* Congratulating to the council for a lot of extra work that has been done already this school year with more great ideas and initiatives being shared. From the Christmas event, leading into 2023 where we are also raising funds through the Raptors tickets and Krispy Kreme, we are in a positive financial position which Dianne will update later

Fundraising opportunity for school, any ideas are welcome:

* End-of-the-Year BBQ, Car-Wash for Class Leadership, Volleyball Games, Friday Night Lights, Fundraising settings to stores as Garden Foods etc.
* **Year End BBQ & Social** – aimed to celebrate graduating classes and also unite parents, students and administration as a potential year end activity.
* **Car Wash** Another way to raise funds for student initiatives and develop more social avenues for students and parent council to participate.
* **Local food Vendor in Bolton** (Il Tagliere Salumeria) would be willing to partner with parent council in the future. Dianne will obtain more details if there is a collective interest in exploring further

Mr.Tantalo mentioned, let’s focused on what we have, the great gift-baskets made a good holiday season, with Raptors tickets on the way and Krispy Kreme, let’s wrap it up what we have now, sometimes the less the better.

Mr.Tantalo added, that it would be good idea to speak to student council and find out if they are planning anything that we can help with; or delegate some fundraising events to them; and later we can revisit plans.

\* Dianne provided updates on *Krispy Kreme fundraise*, with help of Mrs.Lindsay on company contacts; our goal is to reach 150 boxes with selling price $12/box

Deadline is March 21

Final numbers have to be communicated to Krispy Kreme by March 22

Pick-up & distributing to students is March 27

Mike with Updates on Parish-rep:

* M Brunetto hosted an inaugural Parish Rep workshop with Father Andrew Cyruk on January 17 at Holy Family Parish. These efforts brought the parish reps of all off of our elementary family of schools together to discuss topics such as sacraments, inclusivity, student life in highschool and parent life during transitions. M Brunetto also shared the importance of working together in the future to find ways to support student and administration to bring out the Catholic teachings with the guidance of our pastors.
* Lifeteen is for anyone in high school with social opportunities with their peers while engaging their day-to-day experiences in their faith, and in their lives. Life Teen begins with mass at 5:00pm on Saturdays at Holy Family. Following mass (usually around 6:15 pm) youth and the Core team enjoy a meal together. The Life Night, which focuses on a different issue or topic each night, begins at 7:00 pm and runs until 8:30 pm. The Youth Ministry is hosting their annual Pasta Dinner on Saturday March 4. Tickets are on sale now for food that can be taken home or sit down at the Church Hall. M Brunetto kindly asking parents, students and staff to spread the word for Youth Ministry
* Adoration will take place at a new time, every Friday 9:00pm with a holy hour and benediction
* Annual Holy Family Parish Knights of Columbus Valentine’s Day Gala Saturday, February 11
* Ash Wednesday Masses 12:00 noon and 7:00 PM
* CAFFI will be launching 2 workshops on February 23 at Holy Family beginning at 7:00 PM and February 25 at Christ Church on 22 Nancy St., beginning at 10:00 AM. These workshops are a continuation of the CAFFI network launch that took place in November 2022. The network is coming together to discuss independent living challenges and social integration within the community. M Brunetto is one of the CAFFI members hosting the workshop. All families of differing abilities and their extended networks are welcomed to attend. RSVP is required.

\*Parent question, F.Nasotti - what does CAFFI stand for what?

Mike: CAFFI stands for Caledon Area Families for Inclusion. (CAFFI, established in 2012 as a network of families and community members, supporting persons with intellectual disabilities within Caledon. The network has relaunched in November aimed to integrate and advocate for a superior quality of life for our exceptional learners)

* M Brunetto concluded the updates by sharing that he is also working on a potential Inclusive Mass, in discussions with our pastor and also St. Patrick’s Church to determine the best time of year to launch these initiatives
* Inclusive Mass, next in St.Patrick’s Church on March 23, at 6:30-8:00pm

**Treasurer report**: Dianne Borelli

* $767 we had on the beginning
* $166 first gift-baskets
* $718 Christmas baskets
* $1100 Raptors tickets/as per Wednesday
* $500 Gabriella
* $500 Parents Engagement Grant
* $162 /debit/ Visits to Town of Caledon/ PIP-students invoice

Total funds: $3589

Questions/Answers

Closing prayer - Maria

Adjournments